

NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA San Diego, California

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For Immediate Release

THREE SAN MARCOS GANG MEMBERS SENTENCED FOR GANG SHOOTING INVOLVING TWELVE-YEAR-OLD BOY

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - August 22, 2008

San Diego, CA - United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that three members of the Varrio San Marcos street gang were sentenced today on federal charges arising out of a 2005 gang-related shooting in San Marcos, California, that resulted in the wounding of a twelve-year-old boy. Cesar Moedano, the leader of the Varrio San Marcos street gang at that time, admitted in court that he ordered members of the gang to attack individuals perceived to be rival South Los gang members. Moedano was sentenced by District Court Judge Dana M. Sabraw today to serve 192 months (16 years) in custody for his role in the shooting. Leon Rossetto, a member of the Varrio San Marcos street gang, admitted in court to alerting Moedano to the presence of individuals believed to be South Los gang members on Autumn Drive, and to participating in the conspiracy to murder these individuals. Rossetto was sentenced by Judge Sabraw to serve 180 months (15 years) in custody. Geovani Bernal, also a member of the gang, was sentenced to serve 63 months in custody

for his role in the shooting. Pursuant to their guilty pleas, the three gang members also admitted that the Varrío San Marcos street gang was involved in both extortion and drug trafficking in the San Marcos area.

According to court documents, in the evening of November 30, 2005, members of the Varrío San Marcos gang shot at a group of individuals congregating on Autumn Drive in San Marcos as part of a conspiracy to murder rival South Los gang members. During the attack, a twelve-year-old boy was wounded when he was shot in the upper chest.

Prior to the sentencing, defendants Moedano and Rossetto each plead guilty to one count of Violent Crime in Aid of Racketeering, and one count of Using/Carrying a Firearm in Commission of a Crime of Violence before Judge Sabraw. Defendant Bernal pled guilty to one count of Violent Crime in Aid of Racketeering.

DEFENDANTS

Case Number: 06cr1435-DMS

Cesar Moedano, aka Snoop

Leon Rossetto, aka Casper

Geovani Bernal, aka Blackie

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

United States v. Cesar Moedano et.al., (Case Number 06CR1435-DMS)

Title 18, United States Code, Section 1959 - Violent Crime in Aid of Racketeering

Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c) - Using/Carrying a Firearm in Commission of a Crime of Violence

INVESTIGATING AGENCIES

Federal Bureau of Investigation
San Diego Police Department
San Diego Sheriff's Office
North County Regional Gang Task Force
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Oceanside Police Department
Carlsbad Police Department
Escondido Police Department
U.S. Bureau of Prisons
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
U.S. Marshals Service